



Tom Barrett
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

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Mayor Tom Barrett released the following statement regarding the U.S. Department of Education's decision not to fund Wisconsin's first round Race to the Top application:

"Today's decision is bad news for students and families, particularly in Milwaukee. Children in schools around the state, especially in Milwaukee, will not benefit from \$254 million in additional resources; dollars that would have gone directly into the classrooms.

It's painfully obvious that Milwaukee Public Schools are struggling. Today, MPS lost tens of millions of dollars because the district has not moved a solid educational or financial reform plan forward. The result of inaction is not only the loss of Race to the Top Funds. MPS is looking at laying off hundreds of teachers and gutting school curriculums and programs city-wide.

I maintain my call for the State Legislature to take up the MPS reform legislation. I remain firm in my commitment to fix this school district and help our children to achieve success."